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11. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a disorder associated with diarrhoea comprising the step of administering a lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhoea.

12. (Once Amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhoea or a supernatant of a culture thereof.

13. (Once Amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the lactic acid bacterium strain is in a composition which is selected from the group consisting of milk, yogurt, curd, cheese, fermented milks, milk based fermented products, ice-creams, fermented cereal based products, milk based powders, infant formulae, tablets, liquid bacterial suspensions, dried oral supplement, liquid oral supplement, dry tube feeding and liquid tubefeeding.

Please add newly submitted claims 14-22 as follows:

14. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is capable of adhering to the intestinal mucosa of a host organism.

15. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is capable to grow in the presence of up to 0.4 % bile salts.

16. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* and *Lactobacillus paracasei*.

17. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is *Lactobacillus paracasei*.

18. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is *Lactobacillus paracasei* CNCM I-2116 (NCC 2461).

19. The method of claim 7 wherein the ingestable support material is a food composition selected from the group consisting of milk, yogurt, curd, cheese, fermented milks, milk based fermented products, ice-creams, fermented cereal based products, milk based powders, and infant formula.

20. A method for preventing a disorder associated with diarrhea comprising the step of administering to a patient at risk of such disorder a lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhea.

21. A food containing a lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhoea.